

For Mr. Powell of the FCC to claim that he has no responsibility to act in this matter because of his concern for a free press is deeply disingenuous argument. His job is to see that the public airways remain public. Freedom is not the government's gift to us. Government's responsibility is to see that the airways remain open to the free exchange of ideas. When Sinclair coerces its stations into blatant political activity like the showing of the anti-Kerry film, the FCC's simple responsibility is to act. The fact that no one in the Bush administration, even among the supposed watchdog agencies of the government can ever act in an evenhanded and non-political way is what has divided this country so bitterly. Mr. Powell does not work for George Bush. He works for the public, and he is failing in his job. Please reconsider and act to control this blatant and shameful use of money and influence to shape the election.